

ASD 11-91

~~TOP SECRET TRINE~~ VENONA

M 1068

From: WASHINGTON

To: MOSCOW

No.: 7912, 7913

21 December 1942

[Part I]

To MIKOYAN.

The chiefs of departments (OTDEL), [1 group unrecovered] and BELYAEV himself [4 groups unrecovered] [C% the matter] of using and [B% turning back in] secret documents, that [1 group unrecovered] [C% does not seem possible] to use them. [2 groups unrecovered] [B% this matter, but] also with MINAKOV and ANDRIENKO discussed measures for improving [1 group unrecovered] and [or: even] [2 groups garbled] and [B% the latter] decided to check the safes and some desks on [1 group unidentified] [a] in the presence of the chiefs of departments. These measures were cleared [C% beforehand] with BELYAEV. On checking the safes it was found that in the case of almost all the chiefs there were in the safes secret documents and [1 group unrecovered] in a chaotic state. I shall cite some of them: "Summary of the [B% Position] [1 group unidentified] as of [1 group unidentified] [b] November 1942", a [C% folder] from VNO [c] on the movement of ships on [1 group unidentified] 1942, [1 group unrecovered] submarines [1 group unrecovered] as of October 1942. In PISKUNOV's safe an account by Major OVCHINNIKOV and Captain ASKEV of a visit to three American [1 group unidentified] etc. In MINAKOV's safe [1 group unrecovered] [B% the expected] demand for marine [B% equipment] for 1943 [9 groups unrecovered]. [1 group unrecovered] was found a folder of personal documents of another [d]

[30 groups unrecovered]

[D% Colonel] [a] BAIRD [BERD] [f] -- BELYAEV

[21 groups unrecovered]

of departments [1 group unrecovered]

[Part II]

[23 groups unrecovered]

check-up, there was [1 group unrecovered, 1 group unidentified] of the safe of GUR...

[23 groups unrecoverable]

. To establish that the safe was [g] does not seem possible, as the safe was

[15 groups unrecovered]

and [1 group unidentified] without [3 groups unrecovered]. We [B% consider that to open the safe [1 group unidentified], as [1 group unrecovered] [C% is] on the second story

[23 groups unrecovered]

the safe was cracked

[14 groups unrecovered]

[C% PISKUNOV]

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[15 groups unrecovered, 1 group unidentified, 6 groups
unrecoverable]

documents and

[69 groups unrecovered]

documents of another service

[40 groups unrecovered]

is unknown, [3 groups unrecoverable] FILIN [C% was reported] [h]
so that he might inform you [of] the details.

ROSTARCHUK

Translator's notes:

- [a] This group is known to designate a day of the week, and is the same group as in the first few lines of [redacted] Washington-Moscow nos. 8167, 8168 of 29 December 1942: "from Saturday to [1 group unidentified]".
- [b] This group is known to designate a date which may be either the 23rd or the 24th.
- [c] VNO: If this is not garbled, it presumably stands for VOENNO-NAUCHNOE OBSHchestvo (Military Science Society).
- [d] Probably "of another service".
- [e] The text actually has POLK (regiment); it is assumed that the groups required to make POLKOVNIK (colonel) out of this have been omitted by mistake.
- [f] BIRD could be a Russian spelling for BIRD or BYRD, but it is assumed that this is Colonel W.J. BAIRD. The allusion here is probably to some correspondence between him and BELYAEV found in one of the safes.
- [g] A word must have been omitted here (opened? cracked?).
- [h] Perhaps "was reported to FILIN".

11 January 1966